



March 29, 2016

BSO WESTON EXPLORER POST 44 TAKES HOME TOP HONORS!



BSO Weston Explorer Post 44 'brought it home' at the 2016 South Region *Learning For Life Explorer Competition Awards* after three days of competing.

Twenty teams/agencies from as far away as Key West competed in judged law enforcement scenarios such as domestic disturbance, felony traffic stop, search & seizure, in-progress with search, and crime scene as well as timed drills and shooting competition.



Senior Explorer Advisor,
Deputy Kevin Maccagli,
with members of Post 44



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Mayor Daniel Stermer welcomed the 300 guests including participants, post advisors, Police Chiefs, parents and BSO Command Staff at the awards banquet held on Wednesday, March 23rd at Bonaventure Town Center.

BSO Lt. Col. J. Polan provided a powerful key note speech leading up to the presentation of the awards. The top 5 in each category received awards. The pinnacle is the "Overall" Top Team trophy that is presented to a post for one year, with their post and year engraved on it. The award is then up for grabs at the next years' competition.

BSO Explorer Post 44 under the leadership of Deputy Kevin Maccagli, Senior Explorer Advisor, and Deputy Kari Pallotto took home the *Overall Top Team Trophy* along with 11 individual placement trophies/medals. It is quite an accomplishment for a Post that just recently began competing.

Deputies Maccagli and Pallotto are also to be commended on setting the bar in terms of hosting a competition. Each year the South Florida Council Learning For Life Law Enforcement Explorer Conference rotates between Miami-Dade and Broward County. This year's competition was hosted by BSO Weston at Cypress Bay High School during Spring Break – setting a new standard of excellence as host for the competition.

With 20 teams, scenarios are constantly underway while other teams drill or participate in team building activities. All of this takes intense coordination and cooperation of multiple agencies. This coordinated effort included the participation of Cypress Bay High School which allowed use of their facilities and 17 drama students who participated throughout the competition, utilized as "role players" in all of the various scenarios.

During the conference, the following agencies provided displays or presentations: FHP (crash cart), Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission (truck, airboat & alligator), South Miami Police Department (Field Force Equipment and demonstration of techniques), Miami-Dade Police Department (helicopter), ICE – Homeland Security-Customs & Border Patrol (Command Post, surveillance vehicle & SRT vehicle and members), recruiting units from the US Marine Corps and Miami-Dade Police Department, BSO Fire Rescue Weston, the Drug Enforcement Administration and numerous others.



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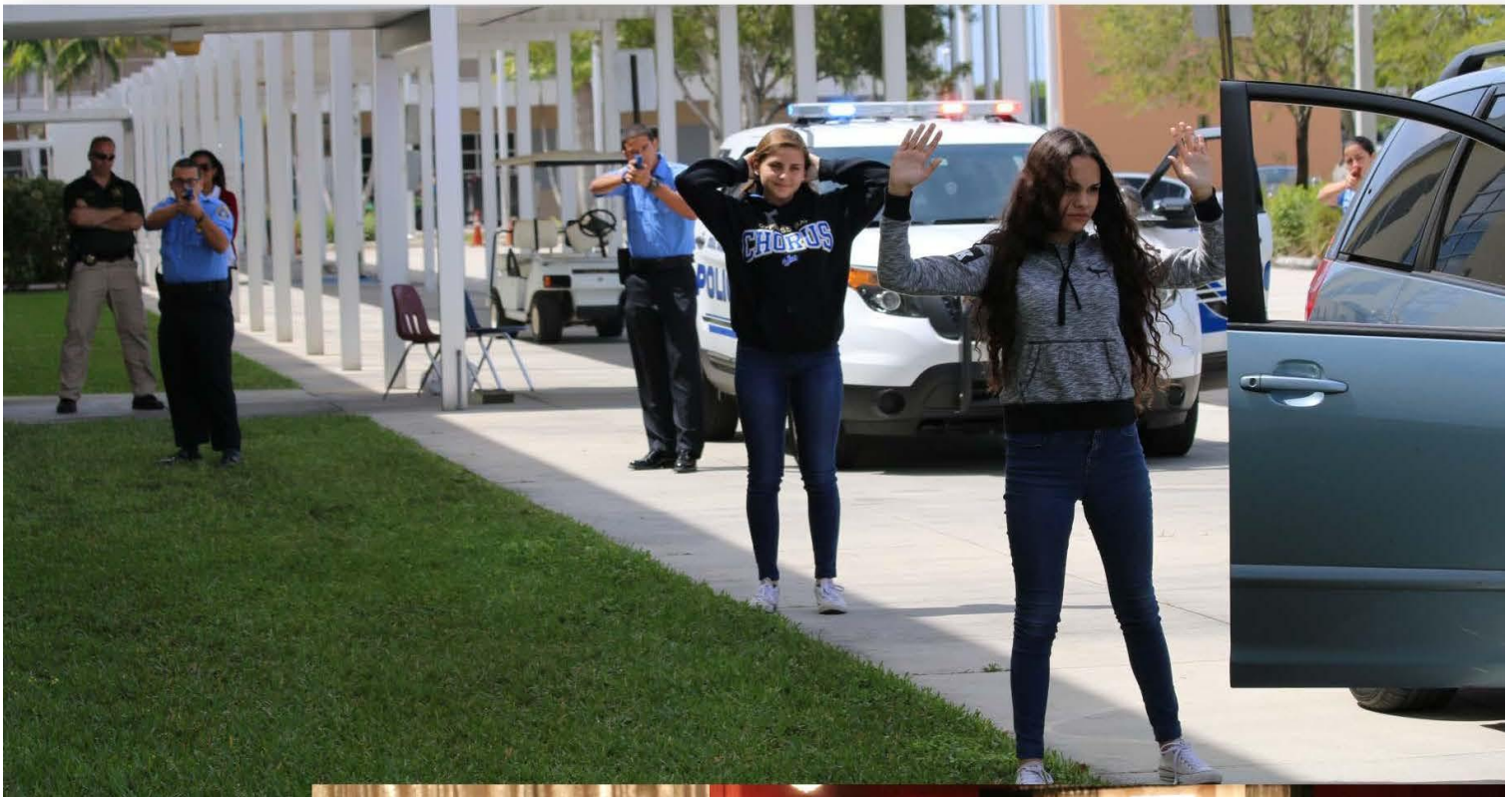




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BSO/Weston Post 44 Awards

"Overall Top Team"

- 1st Place - In-Progress
- 1st Place - Crisis Intervention
- 1st Place -Traffic Stop
- 3rd Place - Crime Scene
- 4th Place - Search & Seizure
- 5th Place -Domestic
- 1st Place - Team Shooting
- 1st & 5th Place - Individual Shooting
- 1st Place Medal Male Physical Agility
- 1st Place Medal Female Bicycle

BSO/Weston Post 44 Competitors

Michael Carabine
Jonathan Nudelman
Matt Delsol
Zoe Ferguson
Victor Yopez
Ryan Richmond

Shooting competition only:

Matt Delsol
Zoe Ferguson
Brandon Dawson

AGENCIES COMPETING: Coconut Creek Post 18; Weston Post 44; Homestead Post 47; Medley Post 67; Hollywood Post 81; Sunrise Post 88; CBP/Customs Post 99; Pembroke Pines Post 108; City of Miami-South Post 122; City of Miami-North Post 162; MDSPD/LEMHS Post 210; South Miami Post 256; Deerfield Post 551; Hialeah Post 589; Coral Gables Post 594; Miramar Post 747; Fort Lauderdale Post 1160; Homeland (HIS) Post 1811; Key West Post 2011.

Congratulations to all involved!

The Sheriff's Law Enforcement Explorer Program is for young men & women ages 14 -21

The program works with teens and young adults by allowing them to interact with law enforcement and other community advisors in a serious, regimented atmosphere where the students can demonstrate their personal initiative. The program offers young adults the opportunity to learn and experience lawful citizenship as they participate, side-by-side with certified BSO deputies in ongoing training and community service projects. *For detailed program information and an on-line application, click on:* http://www.sheriff.org/about_bso/dle/explorers/index.cfm